

Amendments to House Bill No. 587  
3rd Reading Copy

Requested by Senator Debby Barrett

For the Senate Natural Resources Committee

Prepared by Joe Kolman  
April 4, 2011 (12:26pm)

1. Title, line 6.

**Following:** "APPROPRIATION;"

**Strike:** "AND"

2. Title, line 7.

**Following:** "3-7-222,"

**Insert:** "3-7-223,"

**Following:** "MCA"

**Insert:** "; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE"

3. Page 3, line 4.

**Following:** line 3

**Insert:** "Section 6. Section 3-7-223, MCA, is amended to read:

"3-7-223. Duties of the chief water judge. The chief water judge shall:

(1) administer the adjudication of existing water rights by:

(a) coordinating with the department of natural resources and conservation in compiling information submitted on water claim forms under Title 85, chapter 2, part 2, to assure that the information is expeditiously and properly compiled and transferred to the water judge in each water division;

(b) assuring that the water judge in each water division moves without unreasonable delay to enter the required preliminary decree;

(c) assuring that any contested or conflicting claims are tried and adjudicated as expeditiously as possible;

(2) conduct hearings in cases certified to the district court under 85-2-309;

(3) assign court personnel to divisions and duties as needed;

(4) assign the associate water judge to divisions and cases as needed; and

~~(4)~~ (5) request and secure the transfer of water judges between divisions as needed."

{ Internal References to 3-7-223: None. }

**Renumber:** subsequent sections

4. Page 3, line 12.

**Strike:** "The"

**Insert:** "With regard to the consideration of a matter within the  
chief water judge's jurisdiction, the"

5. Page 4, line 10.

**Following:** line 9

**Insert:** "NEW SECTION. Section 11. {standard} Effective date.  
[This act] is effective July 1, 2011."

- END -